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CONFIDENTIAL

STATE

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85 7449513

SCP

NC 7449513

TOR: 311717Z MAY 85

PP RUEAIIB

ZNY CCCCC ZOC STATE ZZH

UTS1369

PP RUEHC

DE RUEHMO #7222/01 1511130

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P 311125Z MAY 85

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1014

INFO RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 7780

RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 7610

RUEHCR/AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU 0142

RUMJNG/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 4572

RUMJSA/AMCONSUL SHANGHAI 0154

RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 1736

RUEHIN/AIT TAIPEI

RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 8003

RUMTBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 2178

RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA 1245

RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 1349

RUFHLG/AMCONSUL LENINGRAD 2637

RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

BT

EZ1:

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 07222

EZ2:

CINCPAC FOR POLAD, BEIJING PASS SHENYANG

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

<> <><>TAGS:<><> PREL, <><>UR<><>, <><>CH<><>, ECON, ETRD, PINR (VOROB'YEV, V.)  
SUBJECT: YAO YILIN'S VISIT AND OTHER SINO-SOVIET

~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

## TOPICS

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: THE SOVIETS HAVE BRIEFED US ON PLANS FOR CHINESE VICE PREMIER YAO YILIN'S UPCOMING MOSCOW VISIT, TO BE HOSTED BY SOVIET DEPUTY PREMIER ARKHIPOV. END SUMMARY.

3. EMBOFF DISCUSSED THE YAO YILIN VISIT AND OTHER SINO-SOVIET TOPICS MAY 30 WITH SOVIET MFA CHINA SECTOR CHIEF V. VOROB'YEV. WHILE DATES ARE STILL BEING DISCUSSED, VOROB'YEV SAID THE VISIT LIKELY WOULD TAKE PLACE IN LATE JUNE OR EARLY JULY FOR ABOUT TEN DAYS, INCLUDING THREE DAYS OF MOSCOW TALKS. SOVIET DEPUTY PREMIER ARKHIPOV WILL BE YAO'S HOST AND MAIN INTER-LOCUTOR. YAO WILL MEET A VARIETY OF SOVIET OFFICIALS, INCLUDING ONE OR MORE ON A HIGHER LEVEL. (COMMENT: THE SOVIET DECISION TO OFFER ARKHIPOV AS HOST IS SIGNIFICANT. SINCE THE ARKHIPOV VISIT TO CHINA IN DECEMBER, CHINESE EMBASSY OFFICIALS HERE HAVE STATED ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS THAT THEY HOPED ARKHIPOV WOULD PLAY HOST TO YAO, BUT HAD THEIR DOUBTS GIVEN MIXED SOVIET SIGNALS. END COMMENT).

4. THE CENTER-PIECE OF YAO'S VISIT WILL BE THE SIGNING OF A FIVE-YEAR TRADE AND ECONOMIC AGREEMENT. A GROUP OF SOVIET TRADE AND ECONOMIC SPECIALISTS HAS BEEN IN BEIJING FOR TWO WEEKS NEGOTIATING THE AGREEMENT, AND WORK APPEARS ALMOST DONE. SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE GRISHIN ARRIVED IN BEIJING MAY 29 TO WRAP-UP NEGOTIATIONS AND INITIAL THE AGREEMENT, PROBABLY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

5. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE AGREEMENT WILL PROVIDE A MECHANISM FOR THE CHINESE TO REPAY SOVIET TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN PLANT UPGRADING AND OTHER PROJECTS THROUGH OFF-SETTING EXPORTS TO THE SOVIET UNION. VOROB'YEV SAID THE AGREEMENT SHOULD HELP MARKEDLY SPEED-UP THE PACE OF BILATERAL TECHNICAL COOPERATION. TO DATE, TECHNICAL AGREEMENTS HAVE BEEN SIGNED OR ARE FAR ALONG FOR ABOUT TEN PLANT UPGRADING AND OTHER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY THE CHINESE IN LATE 1983. THESE PROJECTS (ALL IN NORTHEAST CHINA AND NORTH CHINA ABOVE THE YANGTZE) ARE IN COAL EXTRACTION AND PROCESSING AND FERROUS AND NON-FERROUS METALLURGICAL SECTORS. THE CHINESE PROPOSED AN ADDITIONAL TWENTY-ODD PROJECTS DURING THE ARKHIPOV VISIT AND HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY INDICATED THEY HAVE EVEN MORE PROJECTS IN MIND. VOROB'YEV NOTED THAT SOME PROJECTS MENTIONED BY THE CHINESE WOULD INVOLVE LONG-TERM COOPERATION EXTENDING

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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BEYOND FIVE YEARS.

6. AT THE CHINESE REQUEST, ACCORDING TO VOROB'YEV, THE SOVIETS WILL BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS A WIDE-RANGE OF POLITICAL SUBJECTS WITH YAO, INCLUDING BILATERAL RELATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS TOPICS. ANSWERING EMBOFF'S QUERY, VOROB'YEV SAID THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY IDEA OF HOLDING THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW SINO-SOVIET JOINT COMMISSION ON TRADE, ECONOMICS AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION DURING THE YAO VISIT. WHEN PUSHED, VOROB'YEV SAID VAGUELY THAT THE COMMISSION MIGHT MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME LATER THIS YEAR. THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE COMMISSION WILL BE CHINESE VICE PREMIER LI PENG AND SOVIET DEPUTY PREMIER TALYZIN.

7. AOROB'YEV TOLD EMBOFF THAT THE SOVIETS AND CHINESE HAVE EMBARKED ON WHAT APPEARS TO BE A DIFFICULT SERIES OF NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TOWARD A NEW CINCPAC FOR POLAD, BEIJING PASS SHENYANG  
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SUBJECT: YAO YILIN'S VISIT AND OTHER SINO-SOVIET BILATERAL CONSULAR CONVENTION TO REPLACE AN IN-ADEQUATE 1950'S-ERA CONVENTION. SOVIET MFA CONSULAR ADMINISTRATION CHIEF BYKOV ARRIVED IN BEIJING MAY 29 PREPARED TO HOLD A WEEK OF TALKS WITH CHINESE CONSULAR OFFICIALS BEFORE TRAVELING IN CHINA. THE BONE OF CONTENTION ON BOTH SIDES IS RECIPROCAL ACCESS TO NATIONALS RESIDING IN THE OTHER COUNTRY. (COMMENT: CHINESE EMBOFFS AND A CHINESE NATIONAL RESIDING IN MOSCOW HAVE REPEATEDLY MENTIONED TO EMBOFF THAT THE SOVIETS REGULARLY OBSTRUCT AND DENY ACCESS OF CHINESE NATIONALS HERE TO THE CHINESE EMBASSY. ON THE OTHER HAND, CHINESE EMBOFFS FREELY ADMIT THAT BEIJING AUTHORITIES DO THE SAME TO SOVIET NATIONALS IN CHINA. END COMMENT).

8. VOROB'YEV SAID BYKOV WOULD ALSO BE DISCUSSING THE RECIPROCAL OPENING OF ONE OR MORE CONSULATES. THE ISSUE OF OPENING NEW CONSULATES IS NOT LINKED TO EARLY CONCLUSION OF THE NEW CONSULAR CONVENTION.

9. EMBOFF DISCUSSED BRIEFLY SINO-SOVIET STUDENT EXCHANGES WITH VOROB'YEV. HE SAID THAT THE MAJORITY OF SOVIET EXCHANGB SENT TO CHINA HAVE BEEN IN CHINESE STUDIES AND HUMANITIES, WHILE CHINESE EXCHANGES HAVE BEEN ABOUT EVENLY SPLIT BETWEEN THE HUMANITIES AND THE HARD SCIENCES. VOROB'YEV

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NOTED THAT A FEW CHINESE HAVE COME HERE TO STUDY MARXISM-LENINISM. THE GREATEST PROBLEM WITH EXCHANGES HAS BEEN POOR LANGUAGE SKILLS ON BOTH SIDES, ESPECIALLY AMONG YOUNGER-GENERATION STUDENTS. THIS PROBLEM HAS SO FAR BEEN COVERED UP TO SOME EXTENT BY THE PRACTICE ON BOTH SIDES OF SENDING FIRST SENIOR RESEARCHERS WITH GOOD LANGUAGE SKILLS. VOROB'YEV NOTED THAT THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECTS SOUGHT BY CHINA WILL GENERATE A NEED FOR LANGUAGE TRAINING OF TECHNICAL SPECIALISTS ON BOTH SIDES. ALTHOUGH SOVIET SPECIALISTS CAN COMMUNICATE ADEQUATELY IN ENGLISH WITH CHINESE COUNTERPARTS, NOTED VOROB'YEV, THEY WOULD PREFER THAT EXCHANGES WERE IN RUSSIAN OR CHINESE.

10. COMMENT: WITH SOME RARE EXCEPTIONS, THE SOVIET MEDIA HAVE FALLEN QUITE SILENT ON CHINA SINCE THE GORBACHEV ACCESSION, PARTICULARLY AVOIDING ALMOST ENTIRELY THE KIND OF INDIRECT CRITICISMS OF CHINA ON KAMPUCHEA AND AFGHANISTAN POLICIES WHICH HAD BEEN THE MAINSTAY OF SOVIET PROPAGANDA BLASTS SINCE 1982. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT FOUND MUCH GOOD TO REPORT ON CHINA EITHER. MAJOR EVENTS IN RECENT MONTHS, SUCH AS THE SINO-US DISAGREEMENT OVER PORT CALLS, HU YAOBANG'S OVERSEAS TRAVELS, AND THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED EDUCATIONAL REFORMS HAVE BEEN REPORTED HERE WITH ONLY SLIGHT ATTEMPTS AT IRONICAL CRITICISM. END COMMENT.

11. BIO NOTE: VOROB'YEV HAS BEEN A GOOD SOURCE FOR US FOR THE PAST TWO YEARS. HE IS HEAD OF TWO OF THE THREE SOVIET MFA FIRST FAR EASTERN DEPARTMENT SECTORS DEALING WITH CHINA, THE SECTOR HANDLING BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND (SINCE 1984) THE SECTOR FOLLOWING INTERNAL CHINESE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TRENDS. THOUGH AT TIMES DIFFIDENT IN SOCIAL CONTEXTS, VOROB'YEV APPEARS TO ENJOY IN-OFFICE PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGES WITH FOREIGN DIPLOMATS. HE IS A BACHELOR (LIVING AT HOME WITH HIS MOTHER AND A SISTER) AND AN ARDENT PIANIST. THOUGH HE ONCE SERVED AS AN INTERPRETER IN THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN BEIJING, VOROB'YEV SPEAKS ONLY RUSSIAN. CINCPAC FOR POLAD, BEIJING PASS SHENYANG  
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SUBJECT: YAO YILIN'S VISIT AND OTHER SINO-SOVIET BOTH WITH US AND WITH CHINESE EMBOFFS HERE. WE HAVE FOUND VOROB'YEV INFORMATIVE AND STRAIGHT-FORWARD IN DEALINGS WITH US, IN CONTRAST TO HIS COLLEAGUE V.M. MURATOV, HEAD OF THE THIRD CHINA SECTOR, COVERING CHINESE FOREIGN POLICY.

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HARTMAN

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